

Upton	Watson	Wilson (NM)
Van Hollen	Watt	Wilson (OH)
Velázquez	Waxman	Wilson (SC)
Visclosky	Weiner	Wolf
Walberg	Welch (VT)	Woolsey
Walden (OR)	Weldon (FL)	Wu
Walsh (NY)	Weller	Wynn
Walz (MN)	Westmoreland	Yarmuth
Wamp	Wexler	Young (AK)
Wasserman	Whitfield	Young (FL)
Schultz	Wicker	

## NOT VOTING—22

Berry	Doyle	Poe
Bishop (GA)	Herger	Ross
Carson	Jindal	Simpson
Cubin	Johnson (IL)	Snyder
Davis (IL)	Johnson, E. B.	Tiahrt
Davis, Jo Ann	Kingston	Waters
Delahunt	Kucinich	
Doggett	Peterson (MN)	

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are advised that 2 minutes remain in this vote.

□ 1204

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, on September 24, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall vote Nos. 891, 892, 893 and 894.

Rollcall vote No. 891 was to suspend the Rules and agree to H. Con. Res. 193. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall vote No. 892 was to suspend the Rules and agree to H. Res. 668. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall vote No. 893 was to suspend the Rules and agree to H.R. 1199. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall vote No. 894 was to suspend the Rules and agree to H. Res. 340. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

In addition, on September 25, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall vote Nos. 895, 896, 897, and 898.

Rollcall vote No. 895 was to suspend the Rules and agree to H.R. 1400. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall vote No. 896 was to suspend the Rules and agree to H. Res. 584. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall vote No. 897 was to suspend the Rules and agree to H. Con. Res. 210. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall vote No. 898 was to suspend the Rules and agree to H. Res. 663. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

I would ask that my statement appear in the appropriate location in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ISRAEL). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later today.

## OPPOSING ASSASSINATION OF LEBANESE PUBLIC FIGURES

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 548) expressing the ongoing concern of the House of Representatives for Lebanon's democratic institutions and unwavering support for the administration of justice upon those responsible for the assassination of Lebanese public figures opposing Syrian control of Lebanon, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

## H. RES. 548

Whereas on February 14, 2005, former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri, along with 22 other people, was assassinated by a massive bomb;

Whereas Lebanon's Cedar Revolution led to the withdrawal of Syrian troops from Lebanon in April 2005, following 30 years of Syrian military occupation;

Whereas parliamentary elections were held in Lebanon in May and June of 2005 leading to the formation of a government under Prime Minister Fuad Siniora, with a majority of the parliament and cabinet committed to strengthening Lebanon's independence and the sovereignty of its democratic institutions of government;

Whereas Lebanese independence and sovereignty are still threatened by an ongoing campaign of assassination and attempted assassinations of Lebanese political and public figures opposed to Syrian interference in Lebanon's internal affairs, and terrorist bombings intended to incite ethnic and religious hatred, the continuing presence of state-sponsored militias and foreign terrorist groups, and the ongoing and illegal transshipment of weapons and munitions from Iran and Syria into Lebanon;

Whereas the democratically-elected and legitimate government of Lebanon, in accordance with the mandate of United Nations Security Council resolutions and the relevant provisions of the Taif Accords, has made efforts, through the internal deployments of the Lebanese Armed Forces, to exercise its full sovereignty, so that there will be no weapon or authority within Lebanon other than that of the Government of Lebanon;

Whereas the Lebanese Council of Ministers, on November 25, 2006, approved a statute for the establishment of a tribunal of an international character according to the terms negotiated between the Government of Lebanon and the United Nations in order to bring to justice all those responsible for the terrorist bombing of February 14, 2005;

Whereas a majority of Lebanese members of parliament sought a vote in favor of ratifying the statute establishing a tribunal of an international character, and 70 of Lebanon's then 127 parliamentarians sent a memorandum to the United Nations Secretary-General endorsing the establishment under the United Nations Charter of a Special Tribunal to bring to justice all those responsible for the terrorist bombing of February 14, 2005;

Whereas the Lebanese parliament is scheduled to convene on September 25, 2007, to begin the process of electing the next President of Lebanon;

Whereas Hezbollah, a United States Department of State-designated Foreign Ter-

rorist Organization, and their pro-Syrian allies have declared the democratically-elected and legitimate Government of Lebanon "unconstitutional", and are seeking to topple the government through extra-legal means, including rioting, continuous street demonstrations outside of the Council of Ministers, and obstructing traffic in Beirut;

Whereas the transfer of weapons, ammunition, and fighters into Lebanon in contravention of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1701 (2006), has twice prompted the Security Council to issue statements, on April 17, 2007, (S/PRST/2007/12) and on June 11, 2007, (S/PRST/2007/17) wherein it expressed deep and serious concern at mounting information by Israel and other states of illegal movements of arms into Lebanon, and in particular across the Lebanese-Syrian border, in violation of Security Council Resolution 1701;

Whereas the United Nations Security Council, with the full support of the United States, has repeatedly adopted resolutions, notably, Resolutions 425 (1978), 520 (1982), 1559 (2004), 1655 (2006), 1664 (2006), 1680 (2006), 1701 (2006), and 1757 (2007) that, among other things, express the support of the international community for the sovereignty, territorial integrity, unity, and political independence of Lebanon under the sole and exclusive authority of the Government of Lebanon, and demand the disarmament of all armed groups in Lebanon;

Whereas United Nations Security Council Resolutions, notably, 1595 (2005), 1636 (2005), 1644, (2005), 1664 (2006), 1748 (2007), and 1757 (2007), underscore the importance of the pursuit of justice in response to the terrorist bombing of February 14, 2005, and if appropriate, other assassinations and assassination attempts since October 2004;

Whereas the United Nations Security Council, with the full support of the United States, has sought to assist the Government of Lebanon in extending its authority over all Lebanese territory, including its sea, land, and air borders, through the presence of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) in southern Lebanon and through technical and personnel assistance;

Whereas the United Nations Security Council, with the full support of the United States, has strongly supported the demand of the Lebanese people that justice be done to those responsible for the terrorist attack of February 14, 2005, and other terrorist attacks and attempted assassinations since October 2004, establishing and extending the mandate of the International Independent Investigation Commission (IIIC) to investigate terrorist bombings of February 14, 2005, and moving toward the creation of a Special Tribunal of an international character, according to United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1595 (2005), 1636 (2005), 1644 (2005), 1664 (2006), 1686 (2006) and 1748 (2007);

Whereas Lebanese Prime Minister Fuad Siniora in a letter of May 14, 2007, informed the Secretary General of the United Nations that, "the Lebanese Government believes that the time has come for the Security Council to help make the Special Tribunal for Lebanon a reality. We therefore ask you, as a matter of urgency, to put before the Security Council our request that the Special Tribunal be put into effect. A binding decision regarding the Tribunal on the part of the Security Council will be fully consistent with the importance the United Nations has attached to this matter from the outset, when the investigation commission was established. Further delays in setting up the Tribunal would be most detrimental to Lebanon's stability, to the cause of justice, to the credibility of the United Nations itself and to peace and security in the region.";